

Marijuana Advisory Commission
Tax and Regulate Sub-Committee
Thursday, September 28, 2017
11:00-1:00
Minutes

Item 1: Introductions: Kaj, Kate, Abby, Gwynn, John, Joan, Marty, Sen. Sears, Jill, Aaron, Tim, Cary, Laura

Item 2: Establish Ground Rules:

- How to get to yes, safely and responsibly
- Everyone is here for a reason, all voices will be heard

Item 3: Review Charge of Sub-Committee, including milestones, or due dates

Item 4: Lay of the Land: where does everyone stand (US and Vermont) when it comes to marijuana? (in terms of medical, decrim, legal)

- How do we tax tobacco? How to control and prevent the black market?
- Post-Prohibition taxation of liquor—beat out the dealers and then ratchet it up?
- Steve Kline study (JFO)
- Per capita of other states, to scale to Vermont's population

Item 5: Interests, Opportunities, and Concerns: each member will discuss those affecting their industry or group

Gwynn: concerns with gaps in proposals

- goal to fill those gaps so member issues are filled
- VT us Dillon's Rule State: language isn't there for rules
- leg needs to be explicit and literal, otherwise this will be really challenging
- local concerns: desire to levy own tax (autonomy)
- law enforcement is overwhelmed as it is—could this be more on their plates without added resources?

John: workers comp/worker's safety—similar to opiates/alcohol on the job

Joan: promise of increased revenue

- questions about who growers are and the quality?
- contractors, etc: test for it? Ban it?

Marty: follow alcohol and cigarettes for a model?

- merger
- what type of enforcement?

Rep. Sears: support local option tax

- and on marijuana
- towns should have the right to vote to not sell or distribute
- concerns with the black/grey market

Aaron: institutions willing to bank these entities

- how to deal with cash
 - possibility of \$80-100 million in cash
- malpractice concerns
- making sure there is an avenue for VT concerns

Tim: ensure one crop doesn't impact another

- regulate weight: how do we weigh?

- Vermont Brand, etc. how to maintain the quality

Cary: see handouts

Laura: examine in the context of what is and isn't happening right now

- goal to answer the question of how much are we opening the flood gates?

- small business/grower aspect—how to get them legal?

- eliminate the black market

- compare to the Vermont craft beer industry

Item 6: Future meetings: When? With what frequency? Where? Agenda ideas?

- Cary presentation

- VLTC presentation: effects on downtowns, overlapping business interests

- Hearing from Washington/Colorado

 - regulation, insurance, banking, etc.

- Speak with cultivators to hear issues and capacity

- Dynamic nature of Cole Memo

- What is the risk with the current federal administration?

- What are current black market stats?

 - can we measure this?

What are concerns?

Questions for other groups/states?